



PORTLAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

Portland, Oregon Division
Vancouver, Washington Division
Community Based Outpatient Clinics
Salem, OR Bend, OR
Camp Rilea (Warrenton, OR)



NOTICE OF VACANCY

1. <u>Announcement Number</u> T38-09-0288-SL	2. <u>Title, Series, Grade, Salary</u> Biological Science Laboratory Technician (1725A) GS-404-5 \$32,353 to \$42,060 per annum (Based on full-time employment)	3. <u>Tour of Duty</u> Dayshift M-F	4. <u>Duty Station</u> Research Service, Portland Division
5. <u>Type & Number of Vacancies</u> Temporary, NTE 1 year & 1 Day 1 Full-time position	6. <u>Contact</u> Human Resources Assistant 503-273-5236	7. <u>Opening Date</u> 09/23/09	8. <u>Closing Date</u> 09/29/09

WHO MAY APPLY TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Any US Citizen

MAJOR DUTIES:

The incumbent maintains the laboratory facilities and equipment and controls supplies. Maintains and controls laboratory records. Prepares samples of blood, tissue, urine or other organic substance providing specimens that effectively support test, examination, or research procedures and perform test and examination procedures for diagnostic, surveillance, experimental and reference samples. Performs test and examination procedures for diagnostic, surveillance, experimental and reference samples. Incumbent also performs other duties and assigned.

THIS POSITION IS IN THE BARGAINING UNIT

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Eligibility: U.S. Office of Personnel Management Qualification Standards Handbook for GS-404, Biological Sciences Technician series applies and may be reviewed in the Human Resources Management Service office.

Specialized Experience: At least one year of specialized experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to successfully perform the duties of this position. This one-year of specialized experience must have been comparable to the next lower level, GS-4 in the Federal Service. Experience must have been related to the work of the position for which application is made. Examples of qualifying specialized experience include, but are not limited to: Lab Technician/Aid doing research activity and/or control program work within a Research and Development division for a large and complex medical facility. Duties include but are not limited to: maintaining laboratory facilities, equipment, controls supplies and laboratory records. Preparing samples of blood, tissue, urine or other organic substances providing specimens that effectively support test, examination, or research procedures.

Substitution of Education for Experience: If using education as a substitute for experience, please submit a copy of your college transcripts or school record of credit hours with application packet. Successful completion of 4-year course of study above high school leading to a bachelor's degree with courses related to the occupation in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematic. Education must be directly related to the work of the position.

BASIS OF RATING: (Knowledge, Skills, Abilities (KSAs))

On a separate sheet of paper, provide a written, detailed response to each of the KSAs. Failure to respond to rating factors will result in applicant not being referred for the position:

1. Ability to use computer software programs including MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to generate research protocols, abstracts, slide presentations, correspondence and reports.
2. Knowledge of research protocols using intact mice to study the immune system.
3. Ability to perform small volume injections (for example, into knee joints) in murine models to study arthritis.
4. Ability to prepare bone and joints from murine models to perform histology of arthritic joints.

(Continued on next page)

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Although the duty station is shown in this announcement, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different location within the Portland VA Medical Center commuting area if conditions require it in the future
- Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire non citizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.
- A security clearance and a favorable suitability determination are required. Misconduct in prior employment, criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, habitual use of intoxicating beverages, abuse of narcotics, drugs or other controlled substances, or reasonable doubt of loyalty to the United States are examples of reasons an offer of employment may be denied.
- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must register with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions.
- Public transit subsidy benefits are available. Carpooling assistance is provided. However, single occupancy parking is limited on main Portland campus.
- A pre-employment physical examination will be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.
- This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis
- All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, politics, marital status, non-disqualifying physical or mental handicap, age or membership or non-membership in a labor organization.
- It is the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Federal wage and salary payments are paid to employees by Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT).

HOW TO APPLY:

All application packets must be received in Human Resources by Close of Business (COB) on 09/29/09. Application forms may be obtained in Human Resources Office or on our external website

<http://www.visn20.med.va.gov/Portland/mc/hr>

Applications may be mailed to:
Portland VA Medical Center, P4HRMS
Attn: T38-09-0288-SL
PO Box 1034
Portland, OR 97207

Or brought in person to:
Portland VA Medical Center
3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Rd
Building 16, Room 300
Portland OR 97239

US Citizens must submit:

1. [OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment](#), or Resume. (Please refer to [OF-510, Applying for a Federal Job](#) on the USA jobs website (<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>) for information on how to apply with a resume instead of OF-612
2. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#) (January 2001 version or later). **(REQUIRED)**.
3. Veterans Preference:
 - a. DD-214, Military Discharge Paper (member copy #4 for July 1979 or later editions) (For 5 Point Veteran's Preference).
 - b. [SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference](#) (December 2004 version or later)
 - c. VA letter of service-connected disability rating dated 1991 or later.
4. SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a current or former federal employee).
5. Narrative statement relating to all of the KSAs. Candidates **must** submit a narrative statement on a separate page(s) with specific responses to all of the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) in this announcement. Failure to submit your narrative response to all of the KSAs will result in the applicant not being referred for the position.
6. A copy of your college transcripts (Optional unless education is required).

APPLICANT'S PLEASE NOTE:

- Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.). Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website: <http://www.ed.gov/admns/finaid/accred/index.html>. All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly.
- Foreign Education: To receive credit for education completed outside the United States, you must show proof that the education has been submitted to a private organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials and such education has been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY:

- It is the applicant's responsibility to submit documentation to support his/her application for this position. Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all experience, formal training, award recognition, etc. are documented in the application package. Experience may include voluntary or other non-paid experience in the appropriate field. If you feel that your

training record contains information pertinent to your qualifications, then you must submit a printed copy of your training record with your application package. Your training record will become part of the specific vacancy file and will not be filed in Official Personnel Folder. Human Resources Management Division will not photocopy any application material; applicants are responsible for making photocopies prior to submitting applications.

- **It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the application, regardless of the method used for submission. The VA assumes no responsibility for the late delivery of applications (i.e. postal service delays). The Portland VA Medical Center will not accept FAX, or emailed applications or applications in a US government envelope.**